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In re Patent Application of Alan F. GRAVES

Serial No. 09/648,767

Group Art Unit: 2633

Filed: August 28, 2000

Examiner: Payne, David C.

For: **METHOD, SYSTEM AND SIGNAL FOR CARRYING OVERHEAD INFORMATION IN
A TRANSPORT NETWORK EMPLOYING PHOTONIC SWITCHING NODES**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in the manner prescribed by 37 CFR 1.97(b) - (d) to satisfy the duty under 37 CFR 1.56 to disclose to the Office information, known to individuals associated with the filing and prosecution of the subject application, which is material to the examination of the application.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), this statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(b).

This information disclosure statement is being filed after the first official action but before the earlier of the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR 1.113 or a notice of allowance under 37 CFR 1.311 and under 37 CFR 1.97(c) is accompanied by either a certification as specified in paragraph (e) of 37 CFR 1.97 or the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p). Applicant therefore respectfully requests consideration of this information disclosure statement under 37 CFR 1.97 (c).

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In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(e), I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

In compliance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1), a list of all patents, publications or other information submitted for consideration by the Office is hereby provided by way of the attached Form PTO 1449.

In compliance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), also enclosed is a legible copy of:


- i) each United States and foreign patent;
- ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and
- iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed, excluding any copies of a United States patent or patent application.

It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered by the Examiner and that the references be made of record and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

The Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment in fees to Deposit Account Number 19-2550.

Respectfully submitted,

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Encls.: Form PTO-1449
All references listed on Form PTO-1449
Acknowledgement Card